AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 21, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

In the formulas, X^1 and X^2 each represent -O- or $-NR_7-$, R^1 and R^4 each represent a hydrogen atom or $-CH_3$. R^2, R^5, R^9, R^{12} and R^{16} each represent an alkylene group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a cycloalkylene group, an arylene group or an aralkylene group, each optionally may be substituted. R^3, R^7 and R^{13} represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a cycloalkyl group, an aryl group or an aralkyl group, each optionally may be substituted. R^6 and R^{17} represent an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a ~~cycroalkyl~~ cycloalkyl group, an aryl group or an aralkyl group, each optionally may be substituted. R^8, R^{10} and R^{14} represent a hydrogen atom or $-CH_3-$. R^{11} and R^{15} each represent a single bond or an alkylene group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a cycloalkylene group, an arylene group or an aralkylene group, each optionally may have a substituent. Y^1 and Y^2 each represent a single bond or -CO-. Concrete examples of the compound include m-aminosulfonylphenyl methacrylate, N-(p-aminosulfonylphenyl)methacrylamide and N-(p-aminosulfonylphenyl)acrylamide which can be appropriately used.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

~~Concreate~~ Concrete examples of the compound include N-(p-toluenesulfonyl)methacrylamide, N-(p-toluenesulfonyl)acrylamide.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 38, line 15, with the following amended paragraph:

Some illustrative nonlimiting examples of the solvent include ethylene dichloride, cyclohexanone, methyl ethyl ketone, methanol, ethanol, propanol, ~~ehtylene~~ ethylene glycol monomethyl ether, 1-methoxy-2-propanol, 2-methoxyethyl acetate, 1-methoxy-2-propyl acetate, dimethoxyethane, methyl lactate, ethyl lactate, N,N-dimethylacetamide, N,N-dimethylformamide, tetramethylurea, N-methylpyrrolidone, dimethyl sulfoxide, sulfolane, ~~γ-butylolactone~~ γ-butyrolactone, and toluene. These solvents may be used singly or in a combination of two or more.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 45, line 9, with the following amended paragraph:

Various organic compounds may be used as components for the subbing layer. For example, an organic compound ~~consituting~~ constituting the subbing layer is selected from the group consisting of carboxymethyl cellulose, dextrin, gum arabic, phosphonic acids having an amino group such as 2-aminoethylphosphonic acid, organic phosphonic acids which may have a substituent such as phenylphosphonic acid, naphthylphosphonic acid, alkylphosphonic acid, glycerophosphonic acid, methylenediphosphonic acid, and ethylenediphosphonic acid, organic phosphoric acids which may have a substituent such as phenylphosphoric acid, naphthylphosphoric acid, alkylphosphoric acid, and glycerophosphoric acid, organic phosphinic acids which may have a substituent such as phenylphosphinic acid, naphthylphosphinic acid, alkylphosphinic acid, and

~~glycerphosphinic~~ glycerophosphinic acid, amino acids such as glycine and ß-alanine, and hydrochloric acid salts of amines having a hydroxyl group such as hydrochloric acid salt of triethanolamine. These compounds may be used singly or may be used in a combination of two or more.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 46, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

The organic subbing layer may be formed by any method described below. For example, the above-mentioned organic compound is dissolved in water, an organic solvent such as methanol, ethanol or methyl ethyl ketone, or a mixture thereof to prepare a coating solution, and thereafter, the coating solution is applied to an aluminum plate to provide a subbing layer which is then dried. Alternatively, the above-mentioned organic compound is dissolved in water, an organic solvent such as methanol, ethanol or methyl ~~ehtyl~~ ethyl ketone, or a mixture thereof to prepare a coating solution, and thereafter an aluminum plate is immersed in the coating solution so that the organic compound is adsorbed on the surface of the aluminum plate to form a subbing layer which is then water-rinsed and dried. When the former method is employed, a solution containing 0.005 to 10% by weight of the organic compound can be applied by a variety of methods. When the latter method is employed, the parameters of the conditions are as follows: concentration of the solution is 0.01 to 20% by weight and preferably 0.05 to 5% by weight; immersion temperature is 20 to 90°C, and preferably 25 to 50°C; and immersion time is 0.1 second to 20 minutes and preferably 2 seconds to 1 minute. The pH of the coating solution may be adjusted to from

1 to 12 by use of a base such as ammonia, triethylamine or potassium hydroxide or an acid such as hydrochloric acid or phosphoric acid. Further a yellow dye may be incorporated into the coating solution so as to improve the reproducibility of the surface characteristics of the image recording material.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 47, line 10, with the following amended paragraph:

Examples of the light source of active rays to be used for the image exposure include mercury lamps, metal halide lamps, ~~xeon~~ xenon lamps, chemical lamps, and carbon arc lamps. Examples of radiation include electron beams, X-rays, ion beams, and far-infrared rays. Further, g-rays, i-rays, deep-UV rays, and high-density energy beams (laser beams) can also be used. Examples of the laser beams include helium/neon laser, argon laser, krypton laser, helium/cadmium laser, and Kr/F excimer laser. In the present invention, a light source emitting light in the wavelength range from near-infrared rays to far-infrared rays is preferable, and a solid-state laser or a semiconductor laser is particularly preferable.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 49, line 22, with the following amended paragraph:

A developing solution which can be used in the present invention will be explained in detail below. First, "a silicate developing solution" will be explained. The aforementioned ~~silisie~~ silicic alkali exhibits the alkaline properties when dissolved in water.

Examples thereof include alkali-metal silicates such as sodium silicate, potassium silicate, lithium silicate and the like, and ammonium silicate and the like.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 51, line 17, with the following amended paragraph:

Examples of the sugar alcohol include D,L-arabitol, ribitol, ~~xylytol~~ xylitol, D,L-sorbitol, D,L-annitol, D,L-iditol, D,L-talitol, zulicitol, allozulicitol and the like.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 52, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

An alkaline material as a base may be appropriately selected from previously known ones and may be combined with ~~silisic~~ silicic alkali or non-reducing sugar.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 52, line 18, with the following amended paragraph:

In addition, an organic alkaline substance can also be used as the alkaline substance. Examples of the organic alkaline substance include monomethylamine, dimethylamine, trimethylamine, monoethylamine, diethylamine, triethylamine, monoisopropylamine, diisopropylamine, triisopropylamine, n-butylamine, monoethanolamine, diethanolamine, triethanolamine, monoisopropanolamine, ~~disisopropanolamine~~ diisopropanolamine, ethyleneimine, ethylenediamine, and pyridine.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 59, line 17, with the following amended paragraph:

Among them, those having an acidic group shown in the following (1) to (6) on a main chain and/or a side chain in a polymer are preferable from a viewpoint of the solubility in an alkaline developing solution.

(1) Phenolic hydroxy group (-Ar-OH)

(2) Sulfonamide group ($-SO_2NH-R$)

(3) Substituted ~~suflonamide~~ sulfonamide type acid group

(hereinafter, referred to as "active imide group")

(~~$-SO^2NHCOR$~~ $-SO_2NHCOR$, $-SO_2NHSO_2R$, $-CONHSO_2R$)

(4) Carboxylic group ($-CO_2H$)

(5) Sulfonic group ($-SO_3H$)

(6) Phosphoric group ($-OPO_3H_2$)

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 61, line 25, with the following amended paragraph:

As the polymerizable monomer having an active imide group, N-(p-toluenesulfonyl)methacrylamide, ~~N-(p-tolenesulfonyl)acrylamide~~ N-(p-toluenesulfonyl)acrylamide and the like can be suitably used. The polymerizable monomers having an active imide group described in the first aspect can be also utilized.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 69, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

For example, there are inorganic alkali salts such as sodium silicate, potassium silicate, sodium tertiary phosphate, ~~pottasium~~ potassium tertiary phosphate, ammonium tertiary ~~phospate~~ phosphate, sodium secondary phosphate, potassium secondary phosphate, ammonium secondary phosphate, sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate, ammonium carbonate, sodium hydrogencarbonate, potassium hydrogencarbonate, ammonium hydrogencarbonate, sodium borate, potassium borate, ammonium borate, sodium hydroxide, ammonium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, lithium hydroxide and the like. In addition, organic alkali agents such as monomethylamine, dimethylamine, trimethylamine, monoethylamine, diethylamine, triethylamine, monoisopropylamine, diisopropylamine, triisopropylamine, n-butylamine, monoethanolamine, diethanolamine, triethanolamine, monoisopropanolamine, diisopropanolamine, ethyleneimine, ethylenediamine, and pyridine are used. These alkali agents are used singly or in combinations of two or more.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 70, line 16, with the following amended paragraph:

"Non-silicate developing solution" used in a method of making a plate of the present invention contains a base compound and an organic compound which can provide buffer action as a main component, as described above. As the organic compound having the buffering activity, there are sugars (in particular, those represented by the general formula (I) or (II)), oximes (in particular, those represented by the general formula (III)),

phenols (in particular, those represented by the general formula (IV)) and fluorinated alcohols (in particular, those represented by the general formula (V)) which are described as a compound providing a buffer action in JP-A-8-220775. Among the compounds represented by the general formulas (I) to (V), preferable compounds are sugars represented by the general formula (I) or (II) and phenols represented by the general formula (V). Among sugars represented by the general formula (I) or (II), more preferable compounds are non-reducing sugars such as saccharose and the like and ~~sulfosalysilic~~ sulfosalicylic acid. The non-reducing sugar included trehalose type oligosaccharides in which reducing groups are bind with each other, glycosides which is obtained such that a reducing group of sugars is bound with a non-sugar, and sugar alcohols in which sugars are hydrogenated and reduced.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 72, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

An aluminum plate (material: 1050) having a thickness of 0.3 mm was degreased by washing with trichloroethylene, the surface thereof was grained using a nylon brush and a 400 mesh ~~Pamis-water~~ pumice-water suspension, and washed well with water. This plate was immersed in a 25% aqueous sodium hydroxide solution at 45°C for 9 seconds to etch it. The plate was washed with water, and further immersed in a 20% nitric acid for 20 seconds, and washed with water. An etching amount of the grained surface was about 3 g/m^2. Then, 3 g/m^2 direct current anodized film was provided on this plate by using 7% sulfuric acid as an electrolysis solution at the current density of 15 A/dm^2. Subsequently,

the plate was washed with water, dried, further treated with an aqueous solution of 2.5% by weight of sodium silicate at 30°C for 10 seconds. And then, following subbing solution was coated on the plate, and the formed film was dried at 80°C for 15 seconds to obtain a support. An amount of the formed film after drying was 15 mg/m^2.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 74, line 9, with the following amended paragraph:

~~γ-butyllactone~~ γ-butyrolactone 13g

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 76, line 19, with the following amended paragraph:

~~γ-butyllactone~~ γ-butyrolactone 13g

Please replace Table 5 page 92, line 19, with the following amended Table 5:

Table 5

		Coated amount (g/m)^2		Infrared absorbent					
	~~Planogaphic~~ Planographic printing plate precursor	Upper recording layer	lower recording layer	Upper recording layer	lower recording layer	Load at perceivable scratch (g)	Sensitivity (mJ/cm^2)	Electric conductivity of developing solution for image forming (mS/cm)	Resistance to chemicals (*10,000)
Example 18	21	0.27	0.85	Presence	Presence	75	67	43-51	30
Example 19	22	0.08	1.10	Presence	Presence	50	42	41-49	35
Example 20	23	0.40	0.65	Presence	Presence	120	75	45-55	25
Comparative Example 4	24	0.55	0.83	Presence	Presence	135	130	52-75	5
Comparative Example 5	25	0.28	0.83	Absence	Presence	80	100	57-75	8
Comparative Example 6	26	0.28	0.80	Presence	Absence	3	67	43-45	6